



## **ABBY'S MESSAGE TO THE 21ST CENTURY**

**Purpose:** This lesson will help students understand why 19<sup>th</sup> century Abby Kelley Foster came to visit them. It will help them revisit her words and provide an opportunity for the teacher to clarify any misunderstandings. It would be helpful for the teacher to read all of the background sheets, including the L1 Amalgamation: Background Reading, and study the L 2 Timeline before leading the class discussion.

**Timeframe:** 1 class period

**Procedure:** Brainstorm with class to identify the key messages Abby was trying to give during the play. See the extensions for a more meaningful experience.

### **Possible Answers:**

- **HELP END PREJUDICE IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**  
Become a living agent in all you say, write and do.
- **EDUCATE YOURSELF**  
Read—Listen--Think with an open mind to make your own decisions.
- **COMMIT YOURSELF TO IMPROVING HUMANITY IN YOUR LIFETIME**  
A little time—money—honest effort—make a personal sacrifice.
- **FOLLOW THOUGH**  
Don't let the hard work of those who came before, wither and die.
- **TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO USE YOUR RIGHTS IN THE U. S. CONSTITUTION**
- **THERE IS NO SHAME IN BEING AFRAID, BUT HAVE THE COURAGE TO DO THE RIGHT THING**
- **TAKE A COLD WATER BATH!**

### **Extensions:**

- Explore the *Teaching Tolerance* web site @ <http://www.splcenter.org/teachingtolerance/tt-index.html>.
- Ask students what cause they might commit themselves to today:
  1. Name the cause and what specifically needs to change.
  2. List others who might help you.
  3. List sources of information one could use to gather more facts.
  4. Give 3 arguments to convince opponents to change their point of view.
  5. Hold a practice debate.
  6. Write a persuasive letter to the editor of a local paper or make a poster or cartoon to encourage people to join your cause.